AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended): An anisotropic light scattering element having an anisotropy in light scattering intensity, comprising:

an anisotropic light scattering layer having an anisotropy in light scattering intensity depending on a polarization direction of incident linearly polarized light, and

a birefringent layer having a phase difference of less than 1/10 wavelength with respect to incident light in a normal direction, and a phase difference ~~with respect to incident light in a direction inclined from the normal that is different from the phase difference with respect to incident light in a normal direction~~ of at least 1/10 wavelength with respect to incident light in a direction inclined by 30° from the normal direction.

2. (Currently amended): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1, wherein, in the birefringent layer, the phase difference with respect to the incident light in a normal direction exhibits a minimum and a phase difference value with respect to the light inclined from the normal increases following an increase in absolute value of the inclination ~~(absolute value)~~ of the light.

3. (Original): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1, wherein, in the anisotropic light scattering layer, a maximum transmission direction in which the linear

polarized light exhibits a maximum transmittance and a maximum scattering direction in which a

light scattering intensity of the linearly polarized light is maximized are orthogonal to each other.

4. (Original): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1, wherein the

anisotropic light scattering layer comprises a first translucent region and a second region

distinguished from the first region by the birefringence, and the second region is dispersed in the

first region.

5. (Currently amended): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 4,

wherein, in the anisotropic light scattering layer, a difference (absolute value) in absolute value

between a refractive index of the first region and a refractive index of the second region in the

maximum transmission direction in which the linearly polarized light exhibits the maximum

transmittance is less than 0.03, and a difference (absolute value) in absolute value between a

refractive index of the first region and a refractive index of the second region in the maximum

scattering direction in which the linearly polarized light has maximum light scattering intensity is

from 0.03 to 0.50.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1,

wherein the birefringent layer satisfies any of the following formulas:

$$nx \approx ny > nz$$

$$nx \approx ny < nz,$$

where nx, ny and nz denote respectively refractive indices in the directions of X-axis, Y-axis, and

Z-axis in the birefringent layer; the X-axis direction denotes a direction in which the refractive index is maximized in the plane of the birefringent layer, the Y-axis direction is perpendicular to the X-axis direction in the plane of the birefringent layer, and the Z-axis direction is a thickness direction (normal direction) which is the normal direction of the birefringent layer, and perpendicular to the X-axis and Y-axis.

8. (Original): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1, which is disposed on a visible side of a liquid crystal cell.

9. (Original): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1, wherein the anisotropic light scattering layer and the birefringent layer are laminated via an adhesive or a pressure-sensitive adhesive.

10. (Original): An anisotropic light scattering polarizing plate comprising the anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1 and a polarizer, wherein the polarizer is laminated on the anisotropic light scattering element so as to face the birefringent layer.

11. (Original): The anisotropic light scattering polarizing plate according to claim 10, wherein a maximum scattering direction in which light scattering intensity in the anisotropic light scattering layer of the anisotropic light scattering element is maximized and a transmission axis direction of the polarizer are substantially orthogonal to each other.

12. (Original): The anisotropic light scattering polarizing plate according to claim 10, wherein a maximum scattering direction in which light scattering intensity in the anisotropic light scattering layer of the anisotropic light scattering element is maximized and a transmission axis

direction of the polarizer are substantially parallel to each other.

13. (Original): An image display device comprising a liquid crystal cell, wherein either the anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1 or the anisotropic light scattering polarizing plate according to claim 10 is disposed on a visible side surface of the liquid crystal cell.

14. (Original): An image display device comprising either the anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1 or the anisotropic light scattering polarizing plate according to claim 10.

15. (Original): An organic EL display device comprising either the anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1 or the anisotropic light scattering polarizing plate according to claim 10.

16. (New): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1, wherein the birefringent layer develops a phase difference of at least 1/5 wavelength with respect to incident light in a direction inclined by 30° from the normal direction.

17. (New): The anisotropic light scattering element according to claim 1, wherein the birefringent layer develops a phase difference of from 1/4 to 1 wavelength with respect to incident light in a direction inclined by 30° from the normal direction.